

DR. DEBBYE TURNER

Since she was crowned Miss America 1990, Dr. Debbie Turner has spoken to 500,000 students at hundreds of schools, youth organizations, and college campuses. Her topics include personal excellence, unrelenting determination, goal setting, and the importance of a solid education. She strongly believes that any person has the potential for success no matter their race, socio-economic background, or gender. She uses her own life as an example of triumphing over the odds. It took seven years, eleven tries, in two states to get to the Miss America Pageant.

Dr. Turner completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in May, 1991 at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She has a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree from Arkansas State University. Dr. Turner now lives in St. Louis, Missouri. She is a contributor for the CBS network's "The Early Show". Along with general news stories, she covers stories that deal with the peril and pleasures of being an adult for a segment titled, "Life Matters." In addition, she's been dubbed the show's resident veterinarian and has the added role of contributing a special pet segment appropriately titled *Pet Planet*. Providing an array of preventive measures, life-style tips and discoveries, Debbie shares a wealth of advice about quality pet care. Recently, Debbie garnered an interview with President & Mrs. Bush at the White House for a *Pet Planet* segment about the first family's pets. Prior to joining CBS, she co-hosted a local television magazine program called "ShowMe St. Louis." Dr. Turner also hosted a series about pets and veterinary medicine on PBS, "The Gentle Doctor."

Dr. Turner also divides her time doing veterinary public relations, youth and adult motivational and Christian speaking, and television broadcasting. Although she is not currently in clinical practice in veterinary medicine, she has promoted responsible pet ownership and proper veterinary care for pets through public service announcements, news features, and workshops. Dr. Turner has carried her message of pet care and motivation as far away as Rome, Italy, and Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dr. Turner serves on many boards including Mathews-Dickey Boys and Girls Club, Missouri Division of Youth Services, Young Achievers Program and National Council on Youth Leadership.